



# Florida House of Representatives

## Representative Rick Kriseman

### House District 53

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Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing you today in regards to maintaining the effectiveness of the Lifeline program. I firmly believe that Lifeline is a vital service for all Floridians, not just those who participate in the program, and that adding any kind of subscriber fee to the service will only hinder its value.

The Federal Communications Commission has wisely acknowledged that as we move towards an increasingly wireless world, Lifeline cannot lag behind. Senior citizens in my district have been able to use Lifeline for their landline telephones, but consumers need to have the choice to opt for assistance with cellular telephone service. Consumers should not have to choose between whether or not to enroll in Lifeline because of any fees that may be imposed.

Lifeline has been a success due in part to the program's reasonable eligibility guidelines. With more people applying for benefits like SNAP and TANF, we cannot put barriers up between the people we represent and the services they need.

The FCC made the right move when it established Lifeline without any user fees, and now is not the time to begin imposing any kind of fee on the people that can least afford it. I appreciate your consideration and look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rick Kriseman", with a stylized, flowing script.

Representative Rick Kriseman